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3. Strict; rigorous.
Therefore hold I *strait* all thy commandments; and all false ways I utterly abhor.
Psalms, Common Prayer.
Fugitives are not relieved by the profit of their lands in England, for there is a *straiter* order taken.
Spenser.
He now, forthwith, takes on him to reform
Some certain edicts, and some *strait* decrees
That lay too heavy on the commonwealth.
Shakespeare.
4. Difficult; distressful.
Proceed no *straiter* gainst our uncle Gloucester,
Than from the evidence of good esteem,
He be approv'd in practice culpable.
Shakespeare, Henry VI.
5. It is used in opposition to crooked, but is then more properly written *straight*. [See STRAIGHT.]
A bell or a cannon may be heard beyond a hill which intercepts the sight of the founding body, and sounds are propagated as readily through crooked pipes as through *straight* ones.
Newton's Opticks.
- STRAIT. *n. f.*
1. A narrow pass, or rift.
Plant garrisons to command the *straights* and narrow passages.
Spenser.
Honour travels in a *straight* to narrow,
Where one but goes abreast. *Shakespeare's Troil. and Cressida.*
Fretum Magellanicum, or Magellan's Straits. *Abbot.*
They went forth unto the *straits* of the mountain. *Judith.*
The Saracens brought together with their victories their language and religion into all that coast of Africk, even from Egypt to the *straights* of Gibraltar. *Brewster on Languages.*
2. Distress; difficulty.
The independent party which abhorred all motions towards peace, were in as great *straights* as the other how to carry on their designs.
Clarendon.
It was impossible to have administered such advice to the king, in the *straight* he was in, which being pursued might not have proved inconvenient.
Clarendon.
- Thyself
Bred up in poverty, and *straights* at home,
Lost in a desert here, and hunger-bit. *Milton's Paradise Reg.*
Thus Adam, sore beset! reply'd,
O heav'n! in evil *straight* this day I stand
Before my Judge. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
Let no man who owns a Providence grow desperate under any calamity or *strait* whatsoever, but compose the anguish of his thoughts upon this one consideration, that he comprehends not those strange unaccountable methods by which Providence may dispose of him.
South's Sermons.
Some modern authors observing what *straits* they have been put to in all ages, to find out water enough for Noah's flood, say, Noah's flood was not universal, but a national inundation.
Burnet's Theory of the Earth.
- 'Tis hard with me, whatever choice I make,
I must not merit you, or must forsake:
But in this *straight*, to honour I'll be true,
And leave my fortune to the gods and you.
Dryden.
- The *straights* to which you're driven, and as he knows
Cato's high worth, is anxious for your life. *Addison's Cato.*
Ulysses made use of the pretence of natural infirmity to conceal the *straits* he was in at that time in his thoughts. *Brome.*
- To STRAIT. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To put to difficulties.
If your lads
Interpretation should abuse, and call this
Your lack of love or bounty; you were *straited*
For a reply, at least, if you make care
Of happy holding her. *Shakespeare's Winter's Tale.*
- To STRAITEN. *v. a.* [from *strait*.]
1. To make narrow.
The city of Sion has a secure haven, yet with something a dangerous entrance, *straitened* on the north side by the sea-ruined wall of the mole.
Sandys's Journey.
If this be our condition, thus to dwell
In narrow circuit, *straiten'd* by a foe,
Subtle or violent. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
Whatever *straitens* the vessels, so as the channels become more narrow, must heat; therefore *strait* cloaths and cold baths, heat.
Abbot on Diet.
2. To contract; to confine.
The *straitning* and confining the profession of the common law, must naturally extend and enlarge the jurisdiction of the church.
Clarendon.
The landed man finds him aggrieved by the falling of his rents, and the *straitning* of his fortune, whilst the monied man keeps up his gain.
Locke.
Feeling can give us a notion of all ideas that enter at the eye, except colours; but it is very much *straitened* and confined to the number, bulk, and distance of its objects. *Addison.*
The causes which *straiten* the British commerce, will enlarge the French.
Addison's State of the War.
3. To make tight; to intend.
Stretch them at their length,
And pull the *straiten'd* cords with all your strength. *Dryden.*

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- Morality, by her false guardians drawn,
Chicane in furs, and casuistry in lawn,
Gasp, as they *straiten* at each end the cord,
And dies when dulness gives her page the word. *Duninda.*
4. To deprive of necessary room.
Waters when *straitened* as in the falls of bridges, give a roaring noise.
Bacon's Natural History.
He could not be *straitened* in room or provisions, or compelled to fight.
Clarendon.
Several congregations find themselves very much *straitened*, and if the mode encrease, I wish it may not drive many ordinary women into meetings.
Addison's Spectator.
5. To distress; to perplex.
Men by continually striving and fighting to enlarge their bounds, and encroaching upon one another, seem to be *straitened* for want of room.
Roy.
- STRAITLY. *adv.* [from *strait*.]
1. Narrowly.
2. Strictly; rigorously.
Those laws he *straitly* requireth to be observed without breach or blame.
Hevel.
- STRAITNESS. *n. f.* [from *strait*.]
1. Narrowness.
The town was hard to besedge, and uneasy to come unto, by reason of the *straitness* of all the places. *2. Bacon's Hist.*
It is a great error, and a narrowness of *straitness* of mind, if any man think that nations have nothing to do one with another, except there be an union in sovereignty, or a conjunction in pact.
Bacon's Hist.
The *straitness* of my conscience will not give me leave to swallow down such canals.
King Charles.
2. Strictness; rigour.
If his own life answer the *straitness* of his proceeding, it shall become him well.
Shakespeare.
Among the Romans, the laws of the twelve tables did exclude the females from inheriting, and had many other *straitnesses*; and hardships which were successively remedied. *Hale.*
3. Distress; difficulty.
4. Want; scarcity.
The *straitness* of the conveniences of life amongst them had never reached so far, as to the use of fire, till the Spaniards brought it amongst them.
Locke.
- STRAITLACED. *adj.* [from *strait* and *lace*.] Stiff; constrained; without freedom.
Let nature have scope to fashion the body as she thinks best; we have few well-shaped that are *straitlaced*, or much tamper'd with.
Locke on Education.
- STRAKE. The obsolete preterite of *strike*. *Struck.*
Didst thou not see a bleeding hind
Whose right haunch earst my redfast arrow *strake*. *Spenser.*
Fearing lest they should fall into the quick-falls, they *strake* fail, and so were driven.
Atty xxvii. 17.
- STRAND. *n. f.* [from *strand*, Saxon; *strande*, Dutch; *strand*, Danish.] The verge of the sea or of any water.
I saw sweet beauty in her face;
Such as the daughter of Agenor had,
That made great Jove to humble him to her hand,
When with his knees he kiss'd the Cretan *strand*. *Shakespeare.*
Some wretched lines from this neglected hand,
May find my hero on the foreign *strand*. *Prior.*
Warm'd with new fires.
To STRAND. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To drive or force upon the shallows.
Tarchon's alone was lost, and *stranded* flood,
Stuck on a bank, and beaten by the flood. *Dryden's Rind.*
I have seen of both those kinds from the sea, but few that they can only be such as have strayed from their main residence, and been accidentally intercepted and *stranded* by great storms.
Woodward on Fishes.
Some from the *stranded* vessel force their ways
Fearful of fate they meet it in the sea;
Some who escape the fury of the waves,
Sicken on earth, and sink into a grave. *Prior.*
- STRANGE. *adj.* [from *strange*, French; *extraneus*, Latin.]
1. Foreign; of another country.
I do not condemn the knowledge of *strange* and divers tongues.
The natural subjects of the state should bear a sufficient proportion to the *strange* subjects that they govern.
Locke.
2. Not domestic.
As the man loves least at home to be,
That hath a stutish house, haunted with sprites;
So she, impatient her own faults to see,
Turns from herself, and in *strange* things delights. *Davies.*
3. Wonderful; causing wonder.
It is evident, and it is one of the *strange* secrets in sounds, that the whole sound is not in the whole air only; but is also in every small part of the air.
Bacon's Natural History.
Sated at length, ere long I might perceive
Strange alteration in me. *Milton.*

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- It is *strange* they should be so silent in this matter, when there were so many occasions to speak of it, if our Saviour had plainly appointed such an infallible judge of controversies. *Till.*
- Strange* to relate, from young Julius' head
A lambent flame arose, which gently spread
Around his brows, and on his temples fed. *Dryden's En.*
Strange to relate, the flames, invol'd in smoke
Of incense, from the sacred altar broke. *Dryden's En.*
3. Odd; irregular; not according to the common way.
Desire my man's abode, where I did leave him:
He's *strange* and peevish. *Shakespeare, Cymbeline.*
A *strange* proud return you may think I make you, madam, when I tell you it is not from every body I would be thus obliged.
Suckling.
4. Unknown; new.
Long custom had inured them to the former kind alone, by which the latter was new and *strange* in their ears. *Hooker.*
Here is the hand and seal of the duke: you know the character, I doubt not; and the signet is not *strange* to you. *Shakespeare.*
Joseph saw his brethren, but made himself *strange* unto them.
Gen. lxii. 7.
- Here passion first I felt,
Commotion *strange*! *Milton.*
5. Remote.
She makes it *strange*, but she would be best pleas'd
To be so anger'd with another letter. *Shakespeare.*
6. Uncommonly good or bad.
This made David to admire the law of God at that *strange* rate, and to advance the knowledge of it above all other knowledge.
Tillotson.
7. Unacquainted.
They were now, like sand without lime, ill bound together, at a gaze, looking *strange* one upon another, not knowing who was faithful. *Bacon.*
- STRANGE. *interj.* An expression of wonder.
Strange! what extremes should thus preserve the snow,
High on the Alps, or in deep caves below. *Waller.*
Strange! that fatherly authority should be the only original of government, and yet all mankind not know it. *Locke.*
- To STRANGE. *v. n.* [from the adjective.] To wonder; to be astonished.
Were all the assertions of Aristotle such as theology pronounceth impieties, which we *strange* not at from one, of whom a father saith, *Nec Deum caluit, nec curavit.* *Glauco.*
- STRANGELY. *adv.* [from *strange*.]
1. With some relation to foreigners.
As by *strange* fortune
It came to us, I do in justice charge thee
That thou commend it *strangely* to some place,
Where chance may nurse or end it. *Shakespeare, Winter's Tale.*
2. Wonderfully; in a way to cause wonder, but with a degree of dislike.
My former speeches have but hit your thoughts,
Which can interpret farther: only, I say,
Things have been *strangely* borne. *Shakespeare, Macbeth.*
How *strangely* alive are the arts of peace,
Whose restless motions less than wars do cease;
Peace is not freed from labour, but from noise;
And war more force, but not more pains, employs. *Dryden.*
We should carry along with us some of those virtuous qualities, which we were *strangely* careless if we did not bring from home with us. *Sprat's Sermon.*
In a time of affliction the remembrance of our good deeds will *strangely* cheer and support our spirits. *Calamy.*
- STRANGENESS. *n. f.* [from *strange*.]
1. Foreignness; the state of belonging to another country.
If I will obey the Gospel, no distance of place, no *strangeness* of country can make any man a stranger to me. *Sprat.*
2. Uncommunicativeness; distance of behaviour.
Ungird thy *strangeness*, and tell me what I shall vent to my lady. *Shakespeare, Twelfth Night.*
- Will you not observe
The *strangeness* of his alter'd countenance? *Shakespeare, H. VI.*
3. Remoteness from common apprehension; uncouthness.
Men worthier than himself
Here tend the savage *strangeness* he puts on;
And undergo, in an observing kind,
His humorous predominance. *Shakespeare, Troil. and Cressida.*
This raised greater tumults and boilings in the hearts of men, than the *strangeness* and seeming unreasonableness of all the former articles. *Sent's Sermons.*
4. Mutual dislike.
In this peace there was an article that no Englishman should enter into Scotland, and no Scottishman into England, without letters commendatory: this might seem a means to continue a *strangeness* between the nations; but it was done to lock in the borders. *Bacon.*
5. Wonderfulness; power of raising wonder.
If a man, for curiosity or *strangeness* sake, would make a puppet pronounce a word, let him consider the motion of the instruments of voice, and the like sounds made in inanimate bodies. *Bacon's Natural History.*

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- STRANGER. *n. f.* [from *stranger*, French.]
1. A foreigner; one of another country.
I am a most poor woman, and a *stranger*,
Born out of your dominions; having here
No judge indifferent. *Shakespeare, Henry VIII.*
Your daughter hath made a gross revolt;
Tying her duty, beauty, wit and fortunes
To an extravagant and wheeling *stranger*
Of here and every where. *Shakespeare.*
There is no place in Europe so much frequented by *strangers*, whether they are such as come out of curiosity, or such who are obliged to attend the court of Rome. *Addison on Italy.*
Melons on beds of ice are taught to bear,
And *strangers* to the sun yet ripen here. *Granville.*
After a year's inter-regnum from the death of Romulus, the senate of their own authority chose a successor, and a *stranger*, merely upon the fame of his virtues. *Swift.*
2. One unknown.
Strangers and foes do funder, and not kifs.
You did void your rheum upon my beard,
And foot me, as you spurn a *stranger* cur
Over your threshold. *Shakespeare, Merchant of Venice.*
We ought to acknowledge, that no nations are wholly aliens and *strangers*; the one to the other. *Bacon.*
That *stranger* guest the Taphean realm obeys. *Pope.*
They came, and near him plac'd the *stranger* guest. *Pope.*
3. A guest; one not a domestic.
He will vouchsafe
This day to be our guest: bring forth and pour
Abundance, fit to honour and receive
Our heavenly *stranger*. *Milton.*
4. One unacquainted.
My child is yet a *stranger* in the world;
She hath not seen the change of fourteen years. *Shakespeare.*
I was no *stranger* to the original: I had also studied Virgil's design, and his disposition of it. *Dryden.*
5. One not admitted to any communication or fellowship.
I unspeak my detraction; here abjure
The taints and blames upon myself,
For *strangers* to my nature. *Shakespeare, Macbeth.*
To STRANGER. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To estrange; to alienate.
Will you with those infirmities she owes,
Dower'd with our curse, and *stranger'd* with our oath,
Take her or leave her? *Shakespeare.*
- To STRANGLE. *v. a.* [from *strangle*, Latin.]
1. To choke; to suffocate; to kill by intercepting the breath.
His face is black and full of blood;
His eye-balls farther out, than when he liv'd;
Staring full ghastly, like a *strangled* man. *Shakespeare, H. VI.*
Shall I not then be stifled in the vault,
To whose foul mouth no healthsome air breathes in,
And there be *strangled* ere my Romeo comes? *Shakespeare.*
Do'st thou not know that thou hast *strangled* these hufbands? *Tob. iii. 8.*
The lion did tear in pieces enough for his whelps, and *strangled* for his lionesses, and filled his holes with prey. *Neh.*
So heinous a crime was the sin of adultery, that our Saxon ancestors compelled the adulterers to *strangle* herself; and he who debauched her was to be hanged over her grave. *Ascham.*
2. To suppress; to hinder from birth or appearance.
By th' clock, 'tis day;
And yet dark night *strangles* the travelling lamp:
Is't night's predominance, or the day's shame? *Shakespeare, Macbeth.*
- STRANGLER. *n. f.* [from *strangle*.] One who strangles.
The band that seems to tie their friendship together, will be the very *strangler* of their amity. *Shakespeare, Ant. and Cleopatra.*
- STRANGLES. *n. f.* [from *strangle*.] Swellings in a horse's throat.
- STRANGULATION. *n. f.* [from *strangle*.] The act of strangling; suffocation; the state of being strangled.
A sponge is mischievous, not in itself, for its powder is harmless; but because, being received into the stomach, it swelleth, and occasioning its continual distension, induceth a *strangulation*. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
The reduction of the jaws is difficult, and, if they be not timely reduced, there happen paralysis and *strangulation*. *Wise.*
- STRANGURY. *n. f.* [from *stranguria*, French.] A difficulty of urine attended with pain.
- STRAP. *n. f.* [from *strappe*, Dutch; *stretta*, Italian.] A narrow long slip of cloth or leather.
These cloaths are good enough to drink in, and so be these boots too; an' they be not, let them hang themselves in their own *straps*. *Shakespeare, Twelfth Night.*
I found but one husband, a lively collier, that kicked and spurred all the while his wife was carrying him on; and had scarce passed a day without giving her the discipline of the *strap*. *Addison's Spectator.*
- STRAPPADO. *n. f.* Chastisement by blows.
Were I at the *strappado*, or all the racks in the world, I would not tell you on compulsion. *Shakespeare.*
- STRAPPING. *adj.* Vast; large; bulky. Used of large men or women in contempt.